

[29 November, 2001]

**RAJYA SABHA**

(b) whether any such request has been received from the Karnataka Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the decision, if any, taken by Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD):** (a) and (b) The sugar industry has been de-licensed with effect from 11.09.1998. The entrepreneurs are now free to set up new sugar factories according to techno economic feasibility of their projects maintaining a radial distance of 15 Kms. from the existing sugar factories. As such, no request or proposal is required to be sent by any entrepreneur/State Government for approval of the Central Government.

(c) and (d) Question do not arise.

**Allotment of additional rice for drought affected people in A.P.**

**1227. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH:** Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government have demanded for allotment of an additional three lakh metric tonnes of rice for drought affected people; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN):** (a) and (b) On the request of the Government of Andhra Pradesh special additional allocation of 4,95,560 tonnes of rice for two months (2,45,280 tonnes of rice per months) has been made to the State Government at rates applicable to the families below poverty line (BPL) for distribution to the drought affected families @ 20 Kg per family per month.

**Procurement of Foodgrains**

**†1228. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':**

**SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:**

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of foodgrains procured upto the 31st March, 2001 has since been calculated by Government;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the value of the foodgrains stocked in the godowns of FCI at the end of March, 2001;

(c) the value and quantity of wheat and rice sold in the domestic as well as international market during April-October, 2001; and

(d) the value of foodgrains procured by Government from the farmers during April-October, 2001?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The value of stock of foodgrains as on 31.3.2001 with FCI is as follows:—

Commodity	Quantity		Qty. in Lakh tonnes Value in Rs. Crores	
	FCI	State Agencies	Total Quantity	Value (Approx.)
Wheat	84.05	130.99	215.04	15130
Rice	191.30	40.61	231.91	23087
Total	275.35	171.60	446.95	38217

(c) The value and quantity of wheat and rice sold in domestic market including issues for Public Distribution System and other schemes, as well as international market during the period 1st April, 2001 to October, 2001 is as under:—

Commodity	Domestic market		International market	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Wheat	41.30	2034	20.12	845
Rice	60.85	3884	7.53	455
Total	102.15	5918	27.65	1300

(d) The value (cost + procurement incidentals) of wheat, rice and paddy procured by the Food Corporation of India and other State Agencies from 1.4.2001 to 31.10.2001 is as under:

Commodity	Quantity (in lakh tonnes)	Value (approx. in Rs. crores)
Wheat	206.30	16034
Rice	34.97	3837
Paddy	109.73	7600
Total	351.00	27471

#### Export Policy for wheat

†1229. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have formulated any policy to export wheat keeping in view the abundant stock of wheat in the country;
- (b) if so, the target fixed to export wheat during the year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002; and
- (c) the details of necessary steps being taken by Government to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Government in order to encourage export of wheat has offered 50 lakh tonnes of wheat each in year 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 to PSUs, private parties and other agencies;

- (c) The steps taken to achieve the targets include the following:
  - (i) Offer wheat from the Central pool for export and maintain the export price of wheat at internationally competitive levels;
  - (ii) To constantly monitor exports of wheat and sort out the problems on this front;
  - (iii) Setting up Cleaning facilities at the Kandla Port for ensuring that acceptable quality of foodgrains are sent for export; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.